

# KENNEDY DEAD

## Assassin Flees After Shooting



**ONE MINUTE BEFORE DEATH STRUCK** -President John F. Kennedy rides in Dallas motorcade with Mrs. Kennedy, right, and Gov. and Mrs. John Connally of Texas about one minute before bullets hit.

AP Wirephoto

### Shocked Nation Mourns Death of Kennedy

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The nation reeled in stunned disbelief Friday at the news that President Kennedy had been shot and killed by an assassin. Business came to a near standstill from coast to coast.

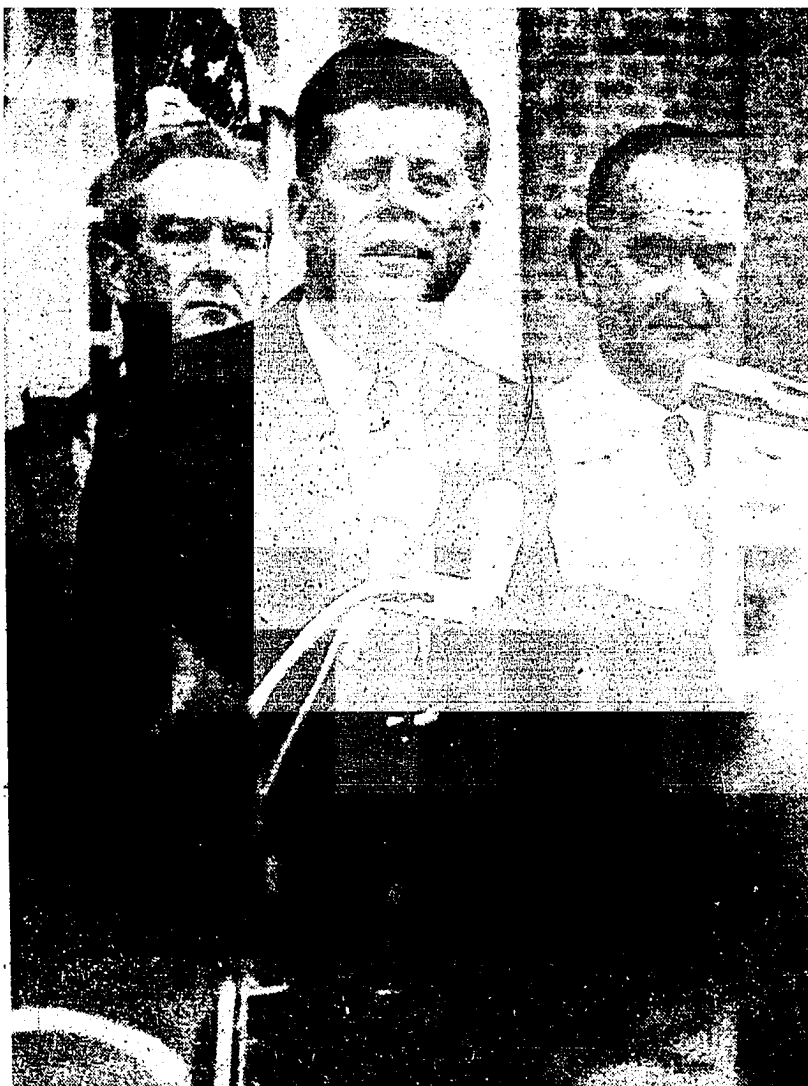
Is it true? a New York judge asked.

How did it happen? was another question.

But the big question in those first numbing moments of the momentous news from Dallas, Tex., was: "Is he alive?"

More than an hour passed before the feared answer

Please Turn to Pg. 9, Col. 1



**FIGURES IN HISTORIC DRAMA** -President Kennedy speaking to Ft. Worth crowd Friday morning. Behind him are Gov. Connally, left, who also was to be hit by sniper, and Lyndon B. Johnson, soon to become the new President.

AP Wirephoto

# Assassination Stuns People, Halts Business

Continued from First Page

came: The President is dead. Anger followed the initial shock.

## Near Hysteria

In downtown Manhattan's Criminal Courts Building a man slammed a newspaper violently onto a desk and ran from a room in near hysteria.

The stock market closed early. Three governors attending the Midwest governors conference in Omaha, Neb., stood wordlessly around a television set. The Senate recessed in Washington, pending developments.

Said Sen. Wayne Morse (D-Ore.), just before the recess:

If there was ever an hour when all Americans should pray, this is the hour.

In Hyannis Port, Mass., where the President planned to spend Thanksgiving, a workman told the President's mother and father about the shooting. It was reported that neither commented.

Mr. Kennedy's father, a semi-invalid as the result of a stroke, was napping when the news came.

The President's mother reportedly was planning to leave immediately for Dallas.

Sen. Edward M. Kennedy of Massachusetts, the President's brother, was presiding over the Senate when the word came to Washington. An aide informed him and he rushed from the Senate chamber.

## Stunned Disbelief

From all across the country came reports of stunned disbelief. Hundreds of telephone calls jammed newspaper, radio and television switchboards.

Again and again the words were repeated: "It can't be true."

In Boston, Mayor John F. Collins postponed the opening of the city's annual Christmas festival and called upon the whole nation to join in prayer for the President and Gov. John Connally of Texas.

A New York cab driver, Joseph Kaufman, 60, put his hand to his head and moaned: "Those dirty bums."

## Unable to Work

"As soon as I drop you off," he told a passenger, "I'm going home. I can't work anymore."

Alabama Gov. George Wallace said that whoever fired the shots "must be filled with universal malice toward all . . . It is hard to

believe that anyone would shoot at the President of the United States . . ."

At a civic luncheon in New Orleans, Mayor Victor Schiro announced the shooting, but his listeners refused to believe him. Finally, he had to say: "No, I'm serious. It's true."

"Oh dear God," New Mexico Gov. Jack Campbell said upon hearing the reports. "This is a very tragic and cruel thing. I know that the people of New Mexico and the country will pray for his family and for the country too."

## Watch News Reports

In Baltimore, Md., policemen and city hall workers crossed the street to gather in the Associated Press office and watch the newswire report from Dallas.

"Dead, whose dead?" said a man standing in the lobby of a Newark (N.J.) office building when told that the President had been killed. He opened his mouth, but said nothing. Then he shook his head and walked away, head bowed.

Rhode Island Gov. John H. Chafee ordered flags to half staff.

"It is a terrible thing," Chafee said. "I know I speak for everybody in Rhode Island when I say to all the family of the President how terrible sorry we are. It is a great loss not only to his family but to our country and the whole world."

## Messenger Cries

In Boston, a messenger walked into a news office just as the word of the death was flashed. The boy's eyes filled with tears as he asked, "dead?" then he walked away without a word.

"Who ever did that had to be sick, sick," said a Pittsburgh man.

In Jackson, Miss., a man walked into a restaurant and asked for everyone's attention. A hush fell over the diners as he announced, "the President has been shot."

In Reno, Nev., a woman said: "I can't imagine anyone doing something so uncivilized . . . and Texas is my home state. Oh, dear God. I just can't believe it."

## Like Losing Brother

And a man in New Haven Conn., remarked: "The way I feel you'd think Kennedy was my brother. But he's more than that—he's our President."

"The heart of every Pennsylvanian is with Jacqueline Kennedy," said Gov. William Scranton of Pennsylvania.